



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER**

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October 29, 2010

TO: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

FROM: Wendy L. Watanabe
Auditor-Controller

SUBJECT: **DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES GROUP
HOME MONITORING SECOND STATUS REPORT (Board Agenda Item
No. 3, April 14, 2009)**

On April 14, 2009, your Board instructed the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), in conjunction with the Auditor-Controller (A-C) and the Chief Executive Officer, to transition the Group Home (GH) program monitoring responsibility to DCFS. Your Board also instructed the A-C to provide semi-annual status reports, during the first two years that DCFS has primary responsibility for GH monitoring, on DCFS efforts to effectively monitor GH contractors' compliance with the County contracts. This is our second status report covering the period of January 1 through September 30, 2010.

Currently, the County contracts with 86 GHs. Of the 86 GH contractors, 42 provide services to DCFS-placed children, 17 provide services to Probation Department (Probation) children, and 27 provide services to both DCFS and Probation-placed children.

Results of Review

Overall, DCFS and Probation developed the appropriate monitoring tools to effectively monitor the GH contractors and both County departments established protocols to report the results of their reviews to your Board. In addition, for the monitoring assignments completed during this review period, DCFS effectively monitored the GH

contractors' compliance with the County contract. Specifically, DCFS' reports identified areas of non-compliance, included recommendations to address the deficiencies noted and provided the implementation status of recommendations included in prior A-C reports.

As noted in our first status report issued in March 2010, DCFS planned to monitor 69 GHs with DCFS-placed children (42 GHs with DCFS only + 27 GHs with DCFS and Probation youth) at least once annually. During Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-10, DCFS completed monitoring reviews for 12 (17%) of the 69 GH contractors. During the first three months of FY 2010-11, DCFS completed monitoring reviews for an additional nine GH contractors; for a total of 21 (30%) of the 69 GH contractors completed. DCFS reported that monitoring reviews for an additional 31 GH contractors are in various stages of completion. Attached is DCFS' status of the 69 GH reviews.

Due to reassigning GH monitoring staff to work on other priority assignments, DCFS did not achieve their goal of monitoring the 69 GH contractors. As a result, DCFS management revised their monitoring plan for FY 2010-11 to begin fieldwork for the remaining 48 GHs (69 GHs – 21 GHs) by December 31, 2010 and complete and issue the reports by June 30, 2011. DCFS reported that they plan to conduct annual monitoring reviews of their GH contractors beginning in FY 2011-12.

To help DCFS achieve their goal of reviewing all GHs annually, DCFS management needs to develop a detailed monitoring plan that includes a staffing plan, approximate start dates for each review and deadlines for completing each review.

Probation's monitoring plan included reviewing the 17 GH contractors that provide services to only Probation-placed children at least once annually. DCFS provided Probation with training by allowing Probation staff to observe DCFS monitoring staff during several of the DCFS GH reviews. In July 2010, Probation started monitoring the 17 GH contractors and as of September 30, 2010, Probation completed the fieldwork for three monitoring reviews and is finalizing the reports. In addition, Probation reported three other GH contractor reviews were in progress. Probation management indicated they will complete and issue reports for all 17 reviews by June 30, 2011. Attached is Probation's status of the 17 GH reviews.

Next Steps

For our next semi-annual report, we will report on DCFS' and Probation's progress in completing their planned GH reviews. We will also report back on DCFS' efforts to develop a detailed monitoring plan and any issues DCFS and Probation experience in completing the planned reviews. We expect to issue our next semi-annual report by March 31, 2011.

Review of Report

We discussed our report with DCFS and Probation management on October 19, 2010. Both Departments agree with our report and will continue their efforts to monitor GHs for program contract compliance.

We thank DCFS and Probation management and staff for their cooperation and assistance during our review. Please call me if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Don Chadwick at (213) 253-0301.

WLW:MMO:JET:DC:AA

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, Department of Children and Family Services
Donald H. Blevins, Chief Probation Officer
Public Information Office
Children's Deputies
Audit Committee

**Status of DCFS Group Home Monitoring Reviews
As of September 30, 2010**

#	Group Home	Scheduled Monitoring Date	Status
1	Childhelp USA	September 2009	Report Issued 5/26/2010
2	Cunningham's Group Home	September 2009	Report Issued 12/31/2009
3	Dubnoff Center	September 2009	Report Issued 6/30/2010
4	Fred Jefferson Memorial Home	September 2009	Report Issued 9/3/2010
5	Hillsides Home for Children	September 2009	Report Issued 6/30/2010
6	Los Angeles Youth Network	September 2009	Report Issued 9/3/2010
7	Luvlee's Residential Care/New Dawn	September 2009	Report Issued 6/30/2010
8	New Outlook Boys Home	September 2009	Report Issued 6/30/2010
9	West Covina Group Home	September 2009	Report Issued 12/31/2009
10	David And Margaret Home	October 2009	Report Issued 8/19/2010
11	Counseling and Research/Masada Homes	November 2009	Report Issued 9/3/2010
12	Ettie Lee Home	November 2009	Report Issued 6/30/2010
13	Hathaway-Sycamores	November 2009	Report Issued 8/31/2010
14	Homes of Hope Group Home	November 2009	Report Issued 5/26/2010
15	Olive Crest Treatment Center	November 2009	Report Issued 9/9/2010
16	Teens Happy Homes	November 2009	Report Issued 9/3/2010
17	Washington-Hancock	November 2009	Report Issued 5/26/2010
18	Boys Town	December 2009	Report Issued 5/26/2010
19	O'Connor and Atkins Home	December 2009	Report Issued 9/3/2010
20	Le Roy Haynes Center	January 2010	Report Issued 9/3/2010
21	Mary's Shelter Dependent Program	January 2010	Report Issued 5/26/2010
22	Children Are Our Future	September 2009	Finalizing Report
23	Sand Hill Group Home	September 2009	Finalizing Report
24	Star View Group Home	September 2009	Finalizing Report
25	Dream Home Care Inc.	November 2009	Finalizing Report
26	Pioneer Boys Ranch	November 2009	Finalizing Report
27	Turmont	November 2009	Finalizing Report
28	Bourne	December 2009	Finalizing Report
29	Perfect Image Youth Center	December 2009	Finalizing Report
30	South Bay Bright Future	December 2009	Finalizing Report
31	Mozell Pennington Boys Center	January 2010	Finalizing Report
32	Children's Homes of Southern California	February 2010	Finalizing Report
33	Deliann Lucile Corporation	February 2010	Finalizing Report
34	Fields Comprehensive Youth Services	February 2010	Finalizing Report
35	Garces Residential	February 2010	Finalizing Report
36	Junior Blind of America	February 2010	Finalizing Report

**Status of DCFS Group Home Monitoring Reviews
As of September 30, 2010**

#	Group Home	Scheduled Monitoring Date	Status
37	Orange County Children's Foundation	February 2010	Finalizing Report
38	Vista Del Mar	February 2010	Finalizing Report
39	Saint Anne's Maternity Home	March 2010	Finalizing Report
40	Careprovider Organization Foundation	June 2010	Finalizing Report
41	Bayfront Youth and Family Services	February 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
42	Casa Editha Foundation/Ava Lyns Group Home	March 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
43	Fleming and Barnes Dimondale Adolescent	March 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
44	Moore's Cottage (Altadena)	March 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
45	Project Six/Health Group	March 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
46	Little People World	July 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
47	Pinnacle Foundation	July 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
48	Macro Homes	August 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
49	Mckinley Children's Center	August 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
50	San Gabriel Children's Center	August 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
51	Vista Del Mar (CTF)	August 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
52	Maryvale	September 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
53	Aviva Center/Hamburger Home	October 2010	N/A
54	B and I Group Home (San Francisco Avenue)	October 2010	N/A
55	Dangerfield	October 2010	N/A
56	Five Acres	October 2010	N/A
57	Human Services Network	October 2010	N/A
58	Murrell's Farm Boys Home	October 2010	N/A
59	Paragon Center	October 2010	N/A
60	Penny Lane	October 2010	N/A
61	Rosemary Children's Services	October 2010	N/A
62	Dream Catcher Foundation	November 2010	N/A
63	Eggleston Youth Center	November 2010	N/A
64	Florence Crittenton	November 2010	N/A
65	Heritage Group Homes	November 2010	N/A
66	Lifecircles Group Home	November 2010	N/A
67	T & T Home for Boys	November 2010	N/A
68	Diakonia Inc.	December 2010	N/A
69	Phoenix House LA	December 2010	N/A

**Status of Probation Group Home Monitoring Reviews
As of September 30, 2010**

#	Group Home	Scheduled Monitoring Date	Status
1	Pacific Lodge	July 2010	Finalizing Report
2	Sonya Love Guidance Center	July 2010	Finalizing Report
3	You Are The Difference Foundation/Loving Life Home	September 2010	Finalizing Report
4	ASHE Inc. Aiming High I , Aiming High II	September 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
5	Guiding Light Home For Boys	September 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
6	Community Youth Sports & Arts Foundation	October 2010	Fieldwork in Progress
7	B & I Group Home (Alvarado Street)	October 2010	N/A
8	House of Bethesda	October 2010	N/A
9	Touch of Life Foundation	October 2010	N/A
10	Humanistic Foundation/New Concept	November 2010	N/A
11	Future Stars	December 2010	N/A
12	Moore's Cottage (Pomona)	December 2010	N/A
13	Rancho San Antonio	December 2010	N/A
14	Boys/Girls Republic	January 2011	N/A
15	Optimist Boys Home and Ranch	January 2011	N/A
16	Trinity	January 2011	N/A
17	Positive Path Youth Development Center	February 2011	N/A